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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAYOR APPOINTS FRIENDS OF THE NEW EVENT CENTRE COMMITTEE

Medicine Hat – Mayor Garth Vallely today announced the formation of the Friends of the New Event Centre Committee (FNECC) that will focus on fundraising for a new centre.

The volunteer committee includes five Medicine Hat residents – Bill Yuill, Chair, Russ Holowachuk, Mike Hertz, Dr. Ken Sauer and Bill Dearborn; a City Council representative – Alderman Darren Hirsch; and a City staff member – Ron Webb, General Manager of Community Development.

"All of them are successful business and community leaders and they are well known for fundraising efforts in the community," says Mayor Vallely. "We have a great team in place to assist us making the multi-purpose events centre a reality."

On April 16, Council passed a motion that the City will defer construction of a new multi-purpose event centre until approximately 50 per cent of the cost has been raised and deposited in a reserve account.

The committee will also be charged with recommending the "naming rights" for a new centre to Council for consideration.

Pending a successful fundraising campaign, Council has committed to construct a new multi-purpose event centre with a capacity of at last 6,500 seats and a spectator capacity of at least 7,100 people for hockey based on a gross building area of at least 175,000.

- 30 -

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